

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SHB 1075

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As Reported by Senate Committee On:  
Natural Resources & Parks, March 26, 2013

**Title:** An act relating to the number of Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery licenses that one vessel may be designated to carry.

**Brief Description:** Concerning the number of Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery licenses that one vessel may be designated to carry.

**Sponsors:** House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources (originally sponsored by Representatives Lytton, Blake, Chandler, Haigh and Morris).

**Brief History:** Passed House: 3/06/13, 94-1; 3/06/13, 93-4.

**Committee Activity:** Natural Resources & Parks: 3/21/13, 3/26/13 [DP].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES & PARKS

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Pearson, Chair; Smith, Vice Chair; Rolfes, Ranking Member; Hargrove, Hewitt, Kline and Parlette.

**Staff:** Curt Gavigan (786-7437)

**Background:** A Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery license is required to take Dungeness crab for commercial purposes in the Puget Sound. The cost for a license is \$130 for a resident and \$185 for a nonresident, along with a \$105 application fee. The Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery has been a limited entry commercial fishery since 1980, and a fisher may operate up to 100 crab pots for each license.

Current law allows for the the designation and use of two Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery licenses on a single vessel. Specifically, two persons with separate Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery licenses can operate those licenses on the same vessel. Additionally, a person who holds two Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery licenses may operate them both on one vessels.

**Summary of Bill:** The number of Puget Sound Dungeness crab fishery licenses that may be designated and operated on a vessel is increased from two to three. This includes the ability

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for two persons to collectively operate up to three licenses on a vessel, or an individual holding multiple licenses to operate up to three licenses on a vessel.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: This bill expands the current practice in the commercial Dungeness crab fishery to allow a stacking of up to three licenses upon one boat. This will allow for more efficiency in the fishery and will further improve the state's management and enforcement capabilities.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Representative Lytton, prime sponsor; Brian Allison, Puget Sound Crab Assn.; Rich Childers, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.